

**PATENT****AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Following is a complete set of claims as amended with this Response. This complete set of claims excludes cancelled claim 14 and includes amended claims 1, 2, 16-25 and new claims 26-28.

1. (Currently Amended) A connector assembly for releasably affixing ~~a lead~~ at least two leads to an implantable medical device, ~~the lead~~ each of the leads comprising a lead body, the connector assembly comprising:

a support;

a single side clamp defining with said support confronting surfaces configured to receive a proximal end portion of the ~~lead body~~ at least two lead bodies; and

a fastener adapted to be received by the support for urging the side clamp toward the support and for clamping the proximal end portion of the ~~lead body~~ at least two lead bodies between said confronting surfaces.

2. (Currently Amended) The connector assembly of claim 1 in which:

the confronting surfaces on the side clamp and the support define ~~a port~~ at least two ports.

3. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 1 in which:

the confronting surfaces comprise confronting channels formed in the side clamp and the support.

4. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 3 in which:

the confronting channels are symmetrically disposed about a plane of symmetry.

5. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 3 in which:

one of the channels is larger in cross section than the other channel.

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6. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 1 in which:  
the support comprises a molded part.
7. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 1 in which:  
the side clamp comprises a molded part.
8. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 1 in which:  
the fastener extends through the side clamp and is threadedly received by  
the support.
9. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 8 in which:  
the support carries a retainer for inhibiting the removal of the fastener from  
the support.
10. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 9 in which:  
the fastener comprises a threaded end including at least one notch  
extending along the length of the threaded end; and  
the retainer has a central opening configured to permit the threaded end of  
the fastener to be withdrawn through the retainer when the fastener and retainer have a  
predetermined angular alignment.
11. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 9 in which:  
the fastener comprises a threaded end; and  
the retainer comprises internal threads matching the threads on the  
fastener end.
12. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 1 in which:  
the fastener extends through the side clamp and is threadedly received by  
an insert carried by the support.

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13. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 12 in which:  
the support comprises a molded part and the insert is comolded  
with the support.
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Original) The connector assembly of claim 1 further comprising:  
a top clamp defining with said support confronting surfaces configured to  
receive the proximal end portion of an additional lead body; and  
a fastener adapted to be received by the support for urging the top clamp  
toward the support and for clamping the proximal end portion of the additional lead body  
between the confronting surfaces defined by the top clamp and the support.
16. (Currently Amended) ~~A connector assembly for releasably affixing a lead  
on an implantable medical device, the lead including a lead body having a proximal end  
portion carrying at least one electrical terminal, the connector assembly comprising: An~~  
implantable medical device system comprising:  
at least two implantable leads, each of the at least two implantable leads  
comprising a lead body having a proximal end portion carrying at least one electrical  
terminal, the at least one electrical terminal electrically coupled to the electronic  
circuitry;  
a sealed casing;  
electronic circuitry within the casing, the at least one electrical terminal of  
the at least two implantable leads electrically coupled to the electronic circuitry; and  
a connector assembly attached to the casing to releasably affix the at  
least two leads, the connector assembly comprising:

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~~a receptacle for receiving~~ at least two receptacles to receive the proximal end portion of the ~~lead body~~ at least two lead bodies, the ~~receptacle~~ each of the at least two receptacles carrying an electrical contact positioned to engage the at least one electrical terminal, the ~~receptacle~~ the at least two receptacles comprising a port first port and a second port defined by a support and a single side clamp; and

a fastener adapted to be received by the support for urging the side clamp toward said support for clamping the proximal end ~~portion of the lead body within the port~~ portions of the at least two lead bodies within the first port and the second port.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~connector assembly~~ implantable medical device system of claim 16 in which:

the first port and the second port are defined by confronting channels in the side clamp and the support.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~connector assembly~~ implantable medical device system of claim 16 in which:

~~the receptacle~~ one of the at least two receptacles is configured to receive the proximal end portion of a pacing and/or sensing lead.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~connector assembly~~ implantable medical device system of claim 16 in which:

~~the receptacle~~ one of the at least two receptacles is configured to receive the proximal end portion of a cardioverting and/or defibrillating lead.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~connector assembly~~ implantable medical device system of claim 16 in which:

the fastener comprises a screw extending through the side clamp and threadedly received by the support.

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21. (Currently Amended) The ~~connector assembly~~ implantable medical device system of claim 20 in which:

the support includes a retainer for inhibiting the removal of the fastener from the support when the screw is loosened to release the proximal end portion of the ~~lead body~~ at least two lead bodies.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~connector assembly~~ implantable medical device system of claim 21 in which:

the fastener comprises a threaded end including at least one notch extending along the length of the threaded end; and

the retainer has a central opening configured to permit the threaded end of the fastener to be withdrawn through the retainer when the fastener and retainer have a predetermined angular alignment.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~connector assembly~~ implantable medical device system of claim 21 in which:

the fastener comprises a threaded end; and

the retainer comprises internal threads matching the threads on the fastener end.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~connector assembly~~ implantable medical device system of claim 16 in which:

a top clamp defining with said support confronting surfaces configured to receive the proximal end portion of an additional lead body; and

a fastener adapted to be received by the support for urging the top clamp toward the support and for clamping the proximal end portion of the additional lead body between the confronting surfaces defined by the top clamp and the support.

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25. (Currently Amended) An implantable medical device comprising:  
a sealed casing;  
electronic circuitry enclosed within said casing; and  
a connector assembly attached to the outside of said casing for releasably affixing ~~a lead~~ at least two leads, each lead comprising a lead body having a proximal end portion carrying at least one electrical terminal and for electrically coupling the at least one electrical terminal to the electronic circuitry, the connector assembly comprising:  
a support;  
a single side clamp defining with said support confronting surfaces configured to receive the proximal end portion of the lead ~~body~~ bodies; and  
a fastener adapted to be received by the support for urging the side clamp toward the support and for clamping the proximal end portion of the lead ~~body~~ bodies between said confronting surfaces.
26. (New) The connector assembly of claim 2 in which:  
the at least two ports have distal ends extending to an outer surface of the connector assembly; and  
the confronting surfaces on the side clamp extend to the distal ends of the at least two ports.
27. (New) The implantable medical device system of claim 17 in which:  
the first port and second port have distal ends extending to an outer surface of connector assembly; and  
the confronting channels in the side clamp and the support extend to the distal ends of the first port and second port.

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28. (New) The implantable medical device of claim 25 in which:
- the confronting surfaces on the side clamp and the support define a first port and a second port;
  - the first port and the second port have distal ends extending to an outer surface of the connector assembly; and
  - the confronting surfaces on the side clamp extend to the distal ends of the first port and the second port.